

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE**

**SPECIAL ORDER NO. 14**

**December 11, 2017**

**SUBJECT:** **PATROL RIFLE ACCESSIBILITY – ESTABLISHED**

**PURPOSE:** Spontaneous incidents may require the quick deployment of the patrol rifle. Active and certified Patrol Rifle Cadre members are relied upon to quickly deploy their patrol rifles, when needed. The following procedures shall apply to personnel assigned to all Patrol Rifle Cadre members throughout the Department.

**PROCEDURE:** Department Manual Section 4/245.55, *Patrol Rifle Accessibility*, has been established and is attached with the revisions indicated in italics.

**AMENDMENT:** This Order adds Section 4/245.55 to the Department Manual.

**AUDIT RESPONSIBILITY:** The Commanding Officer, Audit Division, shall review this directive and determine whether an audit or inspection shall be conducted in accordance with Department Manual Section 0/080.30.



CHARLIE BECK  
Chief of Police

Attachment

DISTRIBUTION “D”

**DEPARTMENT MANUAL**  
**VOLUME IV**  
Established by Special Order No. 14, 2017

**245.55 PATROL RIFLE ACCESSIBILITY.**

**Officer's Responsibilities.** All on-duty uniformed patrol rifle active and certified officers, who are currently issued Department patrol rifles, shall secure their patrol rifles in their patrol vehicles, per Department policy. When operating Department motorcycles, all on-duty uniformed patrol rifle active and certified officers, who are currently issued Department patrol rifles, shall secure their patrol rifles on their Department motorcycles, if their motorcycles are so equipped, per Department policy.

All on-duty **non-uniformed** patrol rifle active and certified officers and detectives, who are currently issued Department patrol rifles, shall have their patrol rifles readily available at their stations and work sites or in their Department vehicles or Department-authorized rental vehicles, per Department policy. Command and staff officers who are members of the Patrol Rifle Cadre may store their privately-purchased patrol rifles in their offices in secured storage units.

On-duty uniformed and non-uniformed patrol rifle active and certified officers with privately-purchased patrol rifles are expected to have their patrol rifles available as stated above. A privately-purchased patrol rifle officer shall be obligated to abide by the patrol rifle deployment criteria, based on Department policies, procedures, and the Agreement for Private Purchase of Patrol Rifle for Duty Use.

**Exception:** When a privately-purchased patrol rifle cannot be securely stored at a work site, or a Department locker is unavailable, the privately-purchased patrol rifle may be stored at the privately-purchased patrol rifle officer's residence. Once a secure work site or Department locker is available, an on-duty officer is expected to secure his or her privately-purchased patrol rifle at the work site or a Department locker. The privately-purchased patrol rifle shall not be stored inside a personal vehicle at a work site while on-duty, except for transporting it to and from duty/work/range. Personnel with assigned vehicles that have Home Garaging Authorities, e.g., Metropolitan Division or staff and command officers may store their privately-purchased patrol rifles inside their vehicle trunks, when properly garaged.

**Note:** An officer with a privately-purchased patrol rifle shall be responsible for its maintenance. The Department will not be liable for a privately-purchased patrol rifle if it is damaged, lost or stolen from the privately-purchased patrol rifle officer, while on-duty.

While off-duty, the privately-purchased patrol rifles may continue to be used at authorized shooting areas or ranges and competitions.

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**Inactive Patrol Rifle Officer – Defined.** An “inactive” patrol rifle officer is a patrol rifle officer who has failed to qualify at or failed to attend one recertification, during which time that inactive officer shall not take his or her patrol rifle out for patrol. That inactive officer must achieve a qualifying score at the next subsequent recertification in order to be placed back on “active” status.

**Decertified Patrol Rifle Officer – Defined.** A “decertified” patrol rifle officer is a patrol rifle officer who has failed to qualify at or failed to attend two consecutive recertifications. A decertified patrol rifle officer who has been assigned a Department patrol rifle shall return the Department patrol rifle and support equipment to the Department Armory within 10 calendar days of being notified of his or her decertified status. A decertified patrol rifle officer who possesses a privately-purchased patrol rifle shall take his or her privately-purchased patrol rifle to his or her residence, immediately, and leave it there until that decertified patrol rifle officer has been certified again; however, if the privately-purchased patrol rifle cannot be secured at his or her residence while the officer has been decertified, e.g., the officer does not possess a locked firearm safe at his or her residence to store the privately-purchased patrol rifle, the privately-purchased patrol rifle officer may secure his or her privately-purchased patrol rifle inside his or her Department locker until the decertified officer has been recertified.

**Military Service or Injured on Duty Exemptions from Recertifications.** When a patrol rifle officer has been deployed for military service or has been Injured on Duty (IOD) during the recertification periods, he or she shall provide military orders or medical documentation to his or her training coordinator and commanding officer, indicating that he or she will be activated for military duty or IOD during the recertification periods, so as to be exempt from recertifications and not be considered decertified. A Department-issued patrol rifle shall be stored at a Department Armory, while a privately-purchased patrol rifle may be stored at his or her residence or at a Department Armory, during military service or IOD status. Once the patrol rifle officer has returned back from military service or IOD, the patrol rifle officer shall immediately notify his or her training coordinator and commanding officer, so as to schedule a recertification, as soon as practicable.

**Privately-Purchased Patrol Rifles and Resignation, Retirement, Transfer to Another Law Enforcement Agency, or Departure from the Department.** When a privately-purchased patrol rifle officer resigns, retires, transfers to another law enforcement agency, or departs from the Department, the privately-purchased patrol rifle will be retained by the purchasing individual and is legally the property of the owner. It has been registered as an assault weapon with the State of California and cannot be transferred to another individual in the state. It is governed by the laws that govern a civilian-owned assault weapon. It can be sold to a licensed assault weapon dealer or outside of California to a Federal Firearm Licensee.

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***Supervisor's Responsibilities.*** Supervisors shall conduct periodic inspections to ensure that all patrol rifle active and certified officers under their supervision, who are currently issued Department patrol rifles or who possess privately-purchased patrol rifles, comply with Section 4/245.55 of the Department Manual. In addition, all patrol rifle active and certified supervisory personnel are encouraged to have their patrol rifles available, as stated above.

***Commanding Officer's Responsibilities.*** All commanding officers shall ensure adherence to the established protocols delineated for patrol rifle accessibility.